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| COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u> | | SECURITY INFORMATION <u>REPORT NO.</u> | |
| TOPIC <u>KVP Tank Regiments in the Spechtberg Area.</u> | | | |
| 25X1A | | 25X1A | |
| EVALUATION <u></u> | PLACE OBTAINED <u></u> | | |
| DATE OF CONTENT <u></u> | | 25X1A | |
| DATE OBTAINED <u></u> | | DATE PREPARED <u>8 July 1953</u> | |
| REFERENCES <u></u> | | | |
| PAGES <u>2</u> ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u></u> | | | |
| REMARKS <u></u> | | | |

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SOURCE

1. From 2 to 5 June 1953, source determined that Object No IX in Spechtberg, near Torgelow, was occupied by three KVP tank regiments which were under the command of Colonel Siegfried Weiss in Pasewalk. Section A quartered Tank Regiment Eckert under the command of Major Eckert (fnu), section B Tank Regiment Schmidt under the command of Major Schmidt (fnu) and section C Tank Instruction Regiment Klenner under the command of Major Klenner (fnu). Major Schulz (fnu) was deputy to Major Eckert. Assigned to Tank Regiment Schmidt were Major Brandis (fnu) as deputy of the commanding officer, PK officer Captain Pilgram (fnu), Captain (intendant) Berkhoff (fnu), Captain Weirich (fnu), as technical officer and Junior Lieutenant Lorz (fnu), officer in charge of an undetermined assignment. Two of the regiments were quartered in permanent buildings while the third regiment was quartered in tents.¹
2. Tank Regiment Schmidt which, according to the officers, was the heaviest KVP regiment in East Germany, was armed with about 82 to 85 JS-3 tanks with 6 bogie wheels and 3 supporting rollers and which were equipped with 122-mm caliber guns. The tanks were parked on the tank training grounds in Neumuehl which were about 4 km northeast of Torgelow and were assigned to Regiment Schmidt. A tank repair shop with two repair shop trucks was also located there. Tank Regiment Klenner had between 35 and 40 T-34 and T-43 instruction tanks. A total of 150 T 43/85 tanks and JS-2 tanks with 122-mm caliber and an undetermined number of SP guns on T-34 chassis were parked on a parking lot in Object No IX. The SP guns allegedly had a caliber of 100-mm. A permanent tank repair shop which had three repair shop trucks with berthes was located at this parking lot.²
3. Tank Regiment Schmidt had 240 officers 25X1
Its personnel strength was not determined. Forty Soviet advisors ranking from major up to colonel were also quartered in Object No IX. ³

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5. Officers stationed at the installation stated that tanks of a new type were parked at an undetermined troop training grounds in Saxony for the tank units stationed in Spechtberg. They said that instruction details had already moved there.
6. In late May 1953, 12 officers were demoted in front of the troops on charges of breach of discipline. The officers were arrested.

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1. Comment. Previous information indicated that one of the three regiments of the mechanized division in Eggesin was under the command of Major Hooft (fnu). He was possibly transferred. Major Eckert may be his successor.

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2. Comment. Concordant information that the Heavy Tank and SP Regiment Schmidt had JS-2 tanks.

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3. Comment. Tank Regiment Schmidt has an estimated strength of about 2,000 soldiers.

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